



#1566

5 Sept 72

SITUATION INFORMATION REPORT

The militant Cleaver faction of the Black Panther Party appears to be decaying while the non-militant Newton-Seale faction undergoes a rebirth.

The Cleaver faction or International Section of the BPP was established in Algeria in September 1969, under the leadership of Eldridge Cleaver. Cleaver has been living in self-imposed exile to avoid imprisonment in the United States for a parole violation infraction.

FBI IN 677792 2111009

In 1960, Cleaver had been welcomed in Algeria as a revolutionary hero after jumping bail and evading arrest in the U. S. on charges arising from a 1968 Panther shootout in Oakland, California. The government of President Houari Boumedienne set him up in a white stucco villa in the diplomatic suburb of El Biar and granted him an allowance of \$500 a month.

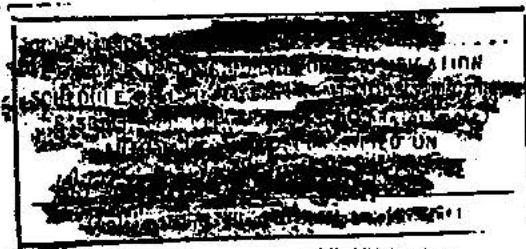
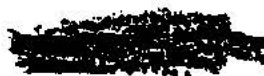
Time mag. Sept.

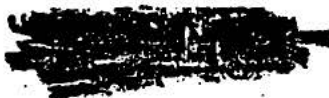
The government of Algeria has put up with its somewhat difficult guest until shortly after the 31 July hijacking of a Delta Airlines jet by three men and two women connected with Cleaver's Afro-American Liberation Army, the international arm of the Black Panther Party. Flight 841 was skyjacked to Algeria for \$1,000,000 which has since been returned to the U. S. airline by the Boumedienne regime. The Algerian government showed no intention of letting the Panthers get their hands on the Delta ransom. In fact, after an open letter to Boumedienne written by Cleaver on 2 August, the government of Algeria placed restrictions on the movements of the Black Panther exile colony, as well as placing under house arrest, all radicals who have hijacked airliners to Algeria in recent months.

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Cleaver was reportedly called in for a scolding by a ranking member of the government party of Algeria, the National Liberation Front. Two weeks ago, when the Panthers invited political exiles,

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Communist diplomats and journalists to an "international day of solidarity" at their villa, Algerian police showed up instead. They confiscated the photographer's film and chased the would-be guests away. Last week the villa was empty and Cleaver was gone. In New York City, Bernice Jones, communications secretary for the faction's New York office, charged that Algeria has been making "reactionary moves" and hinted that Cleaver and his groups would move to one of the more revolution-minded African states, such as Guinea or Libya, which like Algeria, have no extradition treaty with the U.S. *1. 11. 72*

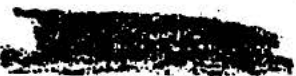
Kathleen Cleaver, wife of fugitive Eldridge Cleaver, announced in a news conference in Compton, California on 19 August '72 that her husband was a "political prisoner" in Algeria. Mrs. Cleaver stated that her husband is no longer safe in Algeria since his life has been threatened by people "representing interests marshalled by the Central Intelligence Agency." Later in the day during a radio interview in San Francisco, she announced that her purpose in the United States is to organize a legal-political-religious-financial campaign to aid the return of her husband to this country without his being immediately subjected to incarceration as a parole violator. She stated that Eldridge Cleaver is willing to face charges stemming from a 1968 shootout with the Oakland Police Department. *FBI IN 69 3145 8/27-72*

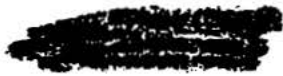
In order to facilitate his return to the U.S., the Cleaver faction has even gone to the extent of applying for admission of a new nation, "Nigretia," to the United Nations. If successful, the faction hopes eventually to establish Nigretian consulates throughout the United States and issue Cleaver diplomatic credentials to enter the country under diplomatic immunity. *1. 11. 72*

In direct contrast, the non-militant Newton-Seale faction of the BPP appears to be enjoying renewed popularity with the black community.

Sixteen months ago, two Black Panthers, Erika Huggins and Bobby Seale, were on trial for their lives in a Connecticut courthouse. Today, Mrs. Huggins is an elected member of the Berkeley Community Development Council as well as the California city's anti-poverty agency. Mr. Seale is a candidate for mayor of Oakland, California. *1. 11. 72*

Their political activity is indicative of a major change in the policy and direction of the national Black Panther Party. BPP reports from two dozen cities show that the Newton-Seale faction, the dominant *1. 11. 72*





faction in the BPP, has put down the gun and picked up the ballot as its new weapon.

N. T. ...

With political activity in the San Francisco Bay area serving as a model for other chapters, the Panthers are not only conducting voter education and registration drives but are also forming political coalitions with other organizations, such as civil rights and community groups, taking their image change before establishment organizations, such as the Jaycees, and making political endorsements of candidates they can support. As an example, the BPP endorsed Rep. Shirley Chisholm, Democrat of Brooklyn, for President and contributed \$1,000 to her campaign.

11-4 T-20 Aug-72

While violent confrontation between Panthers and the police has declined appreciably, the organization's reputation as a group fully capable of extreme violence persists. This stereotyped reputation and the hidden fear and power it represents lends itself well to the party's entry into the legitimate image structure field of politics and persuasion. The image of respectability, the undertone of fear and violence, and the public programs to "take care of their people" all faintly resemble the early days of the so-called American Mafia. We could very well be witnessing the birth of Mafia-type activities designed to gain control of the black ghetto communities where sanctuaries for long-range revolutionary activities would be assured.

... 20 Aug 72

CALENDAR OF TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED ACTIVITIES

5, 6 September, Seaside - Fort Ord, California

The VVAW will hold a Winter Soldier-style tribunal called "The Army on Trial" to begin 5 September. Testimony on racism in the military will be given and read by veterans and active-duty GIs. This latest tribunal will open a day before the Pvt. Billy Dean Smith court-martial beginning 6 September at Fort Ord.

The VVAW has in the past held similar investigative hearings concerning war crimes in Vietnam and drug addiction. Reportedly, a march will be conducted from Seaside to Fort Ord to protest the trial of Pvt. Smith who is charged with the murder of two army officers. Sponsors of the march are the VVAW, Communist Party USA, Black Panthers and the Venceremos Organization. In the past few months preliminary hearings have produced only small-scale demonstrations;

weekly ... 3 Aug 72



however, this coordinated effort and the personal participation by Angela Davis may produce a large-scale demonstration.

Weekly Incident rpt. 3 Aug 72

6 September, New York

The trial is scheduled to begin on the above date for H. Rap Brown who is charged with armed robbery and attempted murder resulting from a bar holdup in October 1971.

Sanctuary 31 June 72 W.F. White 16 Aug 72

7 September, Long Island, New York

The Red Balloon Collective (an offshoot of SDS which takes its name from the radical color and the concept of "high" on drugs as represented by the balloon) is sponsoring a demonstration at the Stony Brook College on the above date. The demonstration will be held to protest Defense Department policy.

FFJ INC 741 11 Aug 72

12 September, San Francisco, California

The Peoples Blockade and the American Friends Service Committee have announced plans to jointly sponsor a demonstration to protest the anticipated departure of the USS Enterprise from Alameda Naval Air Station on 12 September.

Their plans include picketing of the aircraft carrier by boats as it proceeds across the bay and to form a blockade if enough protest boats are available. These types of activities in the past have always been very small and very ineffective but gain disproportionate press coverage.

Weekly Incident rpt. 24 Aug 72

4 - 7 October, Palo Alto, California

The VVAW has announced plans to hold a national convention on the above dates at the Davis Harris Ranch. Reportedly, members of the Venceremos Organization (a militant Marxist-Leninist-Maoist group) will not be admitted to the convention.

Indiv. X. memo # 232 Oct. 10-17 Aug 72

28 October, Nationwide

The National Peace Action Coalition (Trotskyite group) sponsored an antiwar conference in July with the main objective of trying to unite the antiwar organizations. At this time, delegates decided not to endorse a presidential candidate nor support the antiwar protest demonstration at the Republican and Democratic Conventions. The major issue discussed at the conference was the type of activities that the antiwar movement would sponsor in coming months.

*Weekly Incident rpt. 27 July
not in the air 17 Aug*



NPAC officials have announced plans to sponsor a demonstration on October 28. The prime targets will be the Internal Revenue Service for its role in collecting war taxes, and the FBI for its efforts in keeping tabs on radical leftist-wingers. Additional demonstrations are being planned for 18 November to show the President that the American people want the war to end now.

Information will be reported as it becomes available.

Workfile marked RFB. 27. 2007. 72

Just about on TV. 1/20 1964 2

SOURCE: Government and News Media

RELIABILITY: Probably True

